

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2420

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for expanding and intensifying activities of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases with respect to lupus.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 15, 1993

Mrs. MEEK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for expanding and intensifying activities of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases with respect to lupus.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Lupus Research
5 Amendments of 1993”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) lupus is a serious, complex, inflammatory,
2 autoimmune disease of particular concern to women;

3 (2) lupus affects women 9 times more often
4 than men;

5 (3) there are 3 main types of lupus: systemic
6 lupus, a serious form of the disease that affects
7 many parts of the body; discoid lupus, a form of the
8 disease that affects mainly the skin; and drug-in-
9 duced lupus caused by certain medications;

10 (4) lupus can be fatal if not detected and
11 treated early;

12 (5) the disease can simultaneously affect var-
13 ious areas of the body, such as the skin, joints, kid-
14 neys, and brain, and can be difficult to diagnose be-
15 cause the symptoms of lupus are similar to those of
16 many other diseases;

17 (6) lupus disproportionately affects African-
18 American women, as the prevalence of the disease
19 among such women is 3 times the prevalence among
20 white women, and an estimated 1 in 250 African-
21 American women between the ages of 15 and 65 de-
22 velops the disease;

23 (7) it has been estimated that over 500,000
24 Americans have been diagnosed with the disease,
25 and that many more have undiagnosed cases;

8 Subpart 4 of part C of title IV of the Public Health
9 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285d et seq.) is amended by insert-
10 ing after section 441 the following section:

12 “SEC. 441A. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the
13 Institute shall expand and intensify research and related
14 activities of the Institute with respect to lupus.

“(c) PROGRAMS FOR LUPUS.—In carrying out sub-
section (a), the Director of the Institute shall conduct or
support research to expand the understanding of the
causes of, and to find a cure for, lupus. Activities under
such subsection shall include research to determine the

1 reasons underlying the elevated prevalence of the disease
2 among African-American and other women. Activities
3 under such subsection shall provide for an expansion and
4 intensification of the conduct and support of—

5 “(1) basic research concerning the etiology and
6 causes of lupus;

7 “(2) epidemiological studies to address the fre-
8 quency and natural history of the disease and the
9 differences among the sexes and among racial and
10 ethnic groups with respect to the disease;

11 “(3) the development of improved screening
12 techniques;

13 “(4) clinical research for the development and
14 evaluation of new treatments, including new biologi-
15 cal agents; and

16 “(5) information and education programs for
17 health care professionals and the public.

18 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
19 purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized
20 to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1994, and
21 such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years
22 1994 through 1996. The authorization of appropriations
23 established in the preceding sentence is in addition to any
24 other authorization of appropriations that is available for
25 such purpose.”.

